

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY PRAGUE

USMISSION USUN

USIA WASHDC

CINCPAC

CINCEUR

USNMR SHAPE BELGIUM

DIA WASHDC

CINCUSAFE RAMSTEIN AFB

CINCUSAREUR HEIDELBERG

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DA WASHDC//DAMI-FII

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FOR POLADS

USIA FOR IOP, IBS, IPS, IEU

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CSCE IMF NP VN UR US XF XJ PARM

SUBJECT: SUMMARY OF SOVIET PRESS: NOVEMBER 20-22

1. U.S. WEEKEND COVERAGE IS RELATIVELY UPBEAT.

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-- THERE ARE A NUMBER OF ARTICLES ON THE BENEFITS OF GREATER U.S.-SOVIET TRADE. NOV 20 PRAVDA "COMMENTATOR'S COLUMN" BY V. BOL'SHAKOV USES THEME OF N.Y. MEETING OF NATIONAL COUNCIL OF FOREIGN TRADE TO MAKE THIS POINT, AS DOES O. SKALKIN IN NOV 21 PRAVDA "INTERNATIONAL WEEK" COLUMN. BOL'SHAKOV LINKS THIS WITH PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER'S STATEMENT OF READINESS TO CONTINUE SALT NEGOTIATIONS. U.S. UNA CALL ALONG SAME LINES IS ALSO MENTIONED BY BOL'SHAKOV AND REPEATED BY SKALKIN.

-- PRAVDA NOV 20 DESCRIBES MEETING BETWEEN VISITING U.S. UNA DEL AND CC CPSU SECRETARY PONOMAREV.

-- FAVORABLE ARTICLES ON U.S.- SOVIET TRADE ARE BALANCED BY ARTICLES ON U.S. LABOR UNREST, AND INCREASE IN COST OF CONSUMER GOODS. NOV 22 PRAVDA CITES DIRECTOR OF IMF ON CAPITALIST COUNTRIES SUFFERING WORST ECONOMIC CRISIS IN 40 YEARS.

-- NOV 21 PRAVDA MENTIONS RECESS OF SALT NEGOTIATIONS IN GENEVA.

-- THERE ARE SEVERAL SHORT ARTICLES ON PRESIDENT-ELECT CARTER'S PREPARATIONS FOR ASSUMING OFFICE. NOV 22 PRAVDA MENTIONES CARTER-KISSINGER MEETING. SKALKIN IN NOV 21 PRAVDA "INTERNATIONAL WEEK." COMMENTS FAVORABLY ON CARTER'S RESPONSE TO PODGORNYY'S CONGRATULATORY CABLE.

-- NOV 22 PRAVDA CITES N.Y. TIMES ARTICLE ON DEVELOPMENT OF U.S.- SOVIET COOPERATION IN MEDICAL SPHERE. THERE ARE A NUMBER OF FAVORABLE ARTICLES ON OCCASION OF U.S.- SOVIET ENVIRONMENTAL TALKS. RUSSEL TRAINS MEETING WITH PODGORNYY IS MENTIONED IN NOV 22 PRAVDA.

-- ON NEGATIVE SIDE, CIA TAKES MANY LUMPS: PRAVDA NOV 22 HAS ARTICLE BY N. MIROSLNIK ON CIA INVOLVEMENT IN ITALIAN INTERNAL AFFAIRS. NOV 20 PRAVDA HAS TASS HAVANA ITEM CITING CUBAN PRESS ON CIA SUBVERSION AGAINST CUBA. NOV 19 IZVESTIYA HAS ARTICLE BY G. USTINOV REPEATING CZECH INTELLIGENCE ALLEGATIONS ON CIA INVOLVEMENT IN LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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MENT WITH CZECH EMIGRE. ARTICLE PEGGED TO PRAGUE SURFACING OF AGENT SLAMEN.

-- E. RUSAKOV IN NOV 20 PRAVDA HINTS AT CIA, FBI INVOLVEMENT IN MARTIN LUTHER KING DEATH.

-- CIA (AND RL AND RFE) IS ALSO ATTACKED IN NOV 20 PRAVDA ARTICLE BY M. MIKHAILOV ON EFFORT IN WESTERN

COUNTRIES TO DESTROY SPIRIT OF HELSINKI. NOV 22 PRAVDA HAS CARTOON RIDICULING IDEA OF CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE ON COMMUNIST COUNTRY COMPLIANCE WITH CSCE FINAL ACT. COMMENTARY ON NOV 20 VREMYA TV PROGRAM ALSO ATTACKED CONGRESSIONAL CSCE COMMITTEE.

2. OTHER COVERAGE:

-- M.E. COVERAGE IS VERY LIGHT, CENTERS ON CONTINUING NORMALIZATION OF LEBANESE SITUATION. NOV 20 PRAVDA MENTIONS ARAFAT TRIP TO DAMASCUS FOR TALKS WITH SYRIAN LEADERSHIP.

-- O. ALOV HAS INTERESTING ARTICLE IN NOV 19 "NOVOYE VREMYA" ON M.E. DIPLOMATIC FRONT. ALOV MENTIONS POSITIVE U.S. VOTE IN UNSC ON ISRAELI OCCUPATION POLICY AND GOES ON TO FAVORABLY DISCUSS SIGNIFICANCE OF BROOKINGS INSTITUTION STUDY, "TOWARD PEACE IN THE M.E."

-- NOV 21 KZ HAS TASS WASHINGTON ARTICLE CHARGING THAT U.S. ARMS SALES TO ISRAEL ASSIST IN TRANSFORMATION OF ISRAEL INTO "GARRISON STATE."

-- AFRICA COVERAGE IS ALSO LIGHT. NOV 21 PRAVDA AND KZ PICK UP SMITH ALLEGATION THAT SECRETARY PROMISED RHODESIA "SIGNIFICANT ECONOMIC SUPPORT" AND ALSO MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND WEAPONS IF GENEVA TALKS FAILED. NOV 19 IZVESTIYA HAS ARTICLE BY SPECIAL CORRESPONDENT, K. PEREVOSHCHIKOV, ON EFFORTS OF U.S. REPRESENTATIVE JOHN REINHARDT TO WORK INTO GENEVA CONFERENCE ANGLO-AMERICAN SETTLEMENT PLAN "WHICH VIRTUALLY WOULD PRESERVE, IN A NEO-COLONIALIST VARIANT, THE RACIAL BASIS IN RHODESIA." LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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-- NOV 20 PRAVDA DESCRIBES MAPUTO MEETING OF DEFENSE MINISTER OF ANGOLA, ZAMBIA, MOZAMBIQUE, AND TANZANIA. NOV 22 PRAVDA MENTIONS DOWNING OF SEVEN RHODESIAN AIRCRAFT IN THREE DAYS BY MOZAMBIKAN TROOPS.

-- ON EASTERN EUROPE, SEVERAL ARTICLES AND COMMENTARIES IN WEEKEND PRESS PROMINENTLY PLAYED UP ROMANIAN-SOVIET FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION IN PREPARATION FOR BREZHNEV'S ARRIVAL NOV 22 IN BUCHAREST, WHILE OTHERS RECAP FAVORABLE RESULTS OF BREZHNEV VISIT TO YUGOSLAVIA LAST WEEK.

-- FRG GENERAL SNELL CONTINUES TO BE SHARPLY CRITICIZED IN WEEKEND PRESS (IZVESTIYA NOV 19 AND KZ NOV 21) FOR STATEMENTS WHICH REPORTEDLY ADVOCATE PLACING CERTAIN

TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS ON SAME LEVEL AS CONVENTIONAL WEAPONS.

-- IZVESTIYA NOV 20 RECORDS MEETING BETWEEN GROMYKO AND FRENCH AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW, BRUNO DE LEUSSE, COVERING FRANCO-SOVIET COOPERATION AND VARIOUS INTERNATIONAL QUESTIONS.

-- LONG PIECE IN NOV 21 PRAVDA BY E. RUSAKOV ON UN ARMS CONTROL ACTIVITY AND SOVIET INITIATIVES CITES NIGERIAN REP'S PLACING OF CTB IN FRONT RANK OF DISARMAMENT OBJECTIVES AND HIS CHARACTERIZATION OF TTBT AND PNE AGREEMENTS AS "POSITIVE STEPS IN DIRECTION" OF CTB.

-- NEPALESE KING BIRENDRA'S VISIT TO THE USSR CONTINUES TO RECEIVE PROMINENT PRESS COVERAGE. THE KING MET WITH RESIDENT CHIEF OF DIPLOMATIC MISSIONS ON NOVEMBER 19, THE PRINCESS VISITED A WATCH FACTORY, AND SOVIET FONMIN GROMYKO MET WITH HIS NEPALESE COUNTERPART, K.R. ARYAL, THE SAME DAY. THE NEPALESE ENTOURAGE LEFT MOSCOW FOR KIEV ON NOVEMBER 19; THEY WERE SEEN OFF BY CHIEF OF STATE PODGORNYY, FIRST DEPUTY PREMIER MAZUROV AND CULTURE MINISTER DEMICHEV. THEN NEPALESE WENT ON TO TASHKENT ON NOVEMBER 21. AS EXPECTED, THE KING DID NOT MEET WITH BREZHNEV, ALTHOUGH THE LATTER RETURNED FROM YUGOSLAVIA ON NOV 17 AND ATTENDED THE NOV 18 SESSION OF THE RSFSR (RUSSIAN REPUBLIC) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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SUPREME SOVIET.

-- SEVERAL WEEKEND MEDIA COMMENTARIES CRITICIZE THE U.S. VETO OF HANOI'S APPLICATION OF UN MEMBERSHIP. MAIN ITEMS ARE IZVESTIYA INTERNATIONAL COMMENTARY BY V. KUDRYAVTSEV (NOV 20), PRAVDA'S INTERNATIONAL WEEK BY OLEG SKALKIN (NOV 21) AND THE SUNDAY (NOV 21) TV PROGRAM INTERNATIONAL PANORAMA BY M. STURUA. THESE ARE CONSISTENT IN THESE PIECES: THAT VIETNAM DESERVES MEMBERSHIP, THAT EVERYONE EXCEPT THE U.S. AGREES, AND THAT THE U.S. VETO IS AGAINST THE SPIRIT OF THE UN CHARTER. PRAVDA (NOV 21) REPORTS THAT SOVIET PLANNING CHAIRMAN AND DEPUTY PREMIER BAIBAKOV MET WITH THE VIETNAMESE AMBASSADOR ON NOV 20 FOR A "FRIENDLY CONVERSATION."

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